

### **REMARKS**

Applicant appreciates the careful consideration given by the Examiner in the Office Action dated December 18, 2007. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-14, and 16-18 are pending. Claims 1 and 9 are independent. Claims 1, 4, 9 and 12 have been amended. Claims 3, 7, 11 and 15 have been cancelled. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the amendment and remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks timely allowance of all pending claims.

#### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the determination of allowable subject matter in claims 3, 4, 11, and 12. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the allowable features of claim 3 and claim 9 has been rewritten to include the allowable features of claim 11.

All pending claims are now clearly in condition for allowance because they have either been indicated allowable or directly depend therefrom.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the amendment and remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks timely allowance of all pending claims.

#### **Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1, 2, 5-10 and 13-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fanous (U.S. 56,586,996) in view of Fanous's background invention. The rejection of these claims has been rendered moot based on the allowable subject matter and amendments and remarks made herein.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the amendment and remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks timely allowance of all pending claims.

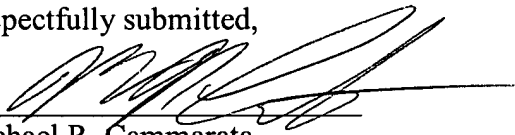
Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance, and solicits a notice thereof. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael R. Cammarata, Reg. No. 39,491 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 18, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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